

Message Text

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16-14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 AID-05 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /084 W

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R 090330Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 526

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 10781

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECT MRN TO READ 10781 VICE 10769)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, ID, KS, KN

SUBJ: INDIAN POSITION ON KOREAN NON-ALIGNED APPLICATIONS

REF: NEW DELHI 10130 (NOTAL)

1. THE ROK MINISTER-COUNSELOR TOLD AN EMBOFF AUGUST 6 THAT HE UNDERSTOOD INDIA WOULD AT LEAST BE INITIALLY IMPARTIAL AT THE LIMA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE WHEN THE APPLICATIONS OF THE KOREAS FOR MEMBERSHIP WERE DISCUSSED. ULTIMATELY INDIA WOULD DEFER TO THE NON--ALIGNED "CONSENSUS" ALTHOUGH THE INDIAN PREFERENCE WAS THAT CONSIDERATION OF THE KOREAN CANDIDACIES BE POSTPONED UNTIL A LATER DATE, PRESUMABLY AT THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE. THE ROK MINISTER BASED HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE INDIAN POSITION ON REPORTS THAT MEA SECRETARY TRIVEDI PRESENTED SUCH VIEWS TO INDONESIAN OFFICIALS WHO RECENTLY VISITED DELHI WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK. ACCORDING TO THE ROK OFFICIAL, BOTH THE INDIANS AND INDONESIANS EXPRESSED CONCERN DURING THEIR TALKS ABOUT THE RELAXATION OF NON-ALIGNED CRITERIA BUT THEY COULD NOT REACH AGREEMENT ON NEW CRITERIA. THE INDIAN AND INDONESIAN DELEGATES TO LIMA
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ARE TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES AGAIN ON THE EVE OF THE CONFERENCE.

2. AN EMBASSY OFFICER WAS EARLIER TOLD BY THE MEA DESK OFFIIER FOR INDONESIA THAT IN HIS VIEW THE GOI WAS MORE INCLINED TO SUPPORT THE NORTH'S CANDIDACY THAN THE SOUTH'S BECAUSE THE DPRK DEFENSE AGREEMENTS WITH THE USSR AND THE PRC, UNLIKE THE ROK'S AGREEMENT WITH THE US, WERE NOT "CONCEIVED IN THE SPIRIT OF GREAT POWER RIVALRY." THE MEA OFFICER INDICATED THAT AN EARLIER NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AT CAIRO HAD ESTABLISHED SUCH A CRITERION FOR NON-ALIGNED MEMBERSHIP, AND THE GOI WAS NOW INTERPRETING IT IN SUCH A WAY TO QUESTION THE APPLICATIONS OF ROMANIA, THE PHILIPPINES, AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH KOREA BUT NOT THAT OF NORTH KOREA.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE GOI MAY SEEK AN IMPARTIAL BACK SEAT AT LIMA ON THE QUESTION OF THE APPLICATIONS, IT ALSO APPEARS TO BE LINING UP ITS LOGIC IN THE EVENT THE NON-ALIGNED "CONSENSUS" ACCEPTS THE NORTH WHILE REJECTING OR DEFERRING THE SOUTH.
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